

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4-10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19-25, 28, 29, and 31-34 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for performing database operations, the method comprising the steps of:

reading, from a first set of database tables by executing a first database query command string, a first plurality of elements, the first plurality of elements comprising at least one of at least one database query language command and at least one database query command argument as a first plurality of elements of a first database search engine query from a first set of one or more query element database tables;

assembling a query string from the first plurality of elements that were read from the first set of database tables into a, the query string comprising a second database query command string to be executed by a database search engine on a second set of database tables; and

executing the first query string as a second database query command string on the database engine to retrieve a results set from the second set of one or more source database tables.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first set of database tables comprises a first query element database table and a second query element database table, and wherein the step of reading at least one of at least one database query language command and at least one database query command argument includes comprises the sub-steps of:

reading, by executing a second database query command string, a name of the a second query element database table from the a first query element database table; and

reading, from the second query element database table by executing a third database query command string, a plurality of arguments for to be assembled into the query string from the second query element database table.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the sub-step of assembling a query string that includes a first database query language command and the plurality of arguments.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein the step of reading the first plurality of elements ~~of a first query from the first set of one or more query element database tables~~ further includes the sub-step of reading, from the first set of database tables, one or more names, corresponding to one or more source data database tables from the first query element of database tables within the second set of database tables from which the results set is to be retrieved by executing the query string.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 2 ~~4~~, wherein the sub-step of reading a first plurality of arguments ~~for the first database search engine query from the second query element database table~~ includes the sub-step of reading a plurality of names of columns within database tables in of the second set of one or more source data database tables from the second query element database table, the plurality of names of columns to be incorporated into the query string to specify data to retrieve for the results set.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the sub-step of concatenating together the first plurality of elements that include ~~the name of the one or more source data database tables and the plurality of names of columns.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of reading a further ~~second~~ database query language command from the first query element database table.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of reading a plurality of names of columns of a target data database table from the second query element database table, wherein the target data database table is to receive the results set and the plurality of names of columns are to be included into a database command string.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the sub-step of concatenating together a second plurality of elements that include the further second database query language command and the plurality of names of columns of the target data database table.
10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
reading a second plurality of elements of a database query language query from a third second set of ~~one or more query element~~ database tables;
assembling a data base table storage command string from the second plurality of elements
and
executing the data base table storage command string in order to modify a target data table with the results set.
11. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein said storage command string is Structured Query Language UPDATE command string.
12. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein said storage command string is Structured Query Language INSERT command string.
13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein one or more query element database tables in said third second set of ~~one or more query element~~ database tables is also in said first set of ~~one or more query element~~ database tables.
14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein said second plurality of elements contain data database query language elements used in database query command strings ~~that used to~~ specify the location in which data elements are to be stored in the target data database table.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of executing said storage command string so as to cause all or a part of said results set to be stored.

16. (Currently Amend) A machine-readable medium encoded with a program for performing database operations, said program containing instructions for performing the steps of:

reading, from a first set of database tables by executing a first database query command string, a first plurality of elements, the first plurality of elements comprising at least one of at least one database query language command and at least one database query command argument as a first plurality of elements of a first database search engine query from a first set of one or more query element database tables;

assembling a query string from the first plurality of elements that were read from the first set of database tables into a, the query string comprising a second database query command string to be executed by a database search engine on a second set of database tables; and

executing the first query string as a second database query command string on the database engine to retrieve a results set from the second set of one or more source database tables.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 16, wherein the first set of database tables comprises a first query element database table and a second query element database table, and wherein the step of reading at least one of at least one database query language command and at least one database query command argument includes comprises the sub-steps of:

reading, by executing a second database query command string, a name of the a second query element database table from the a first query element database table; and

reading, from the second query element database table by executing a third database query command string, a plurality of arguments for to be assembled into the query string from the second query element database table.

18. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 17, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the sub-step of assembling a query string that includes a first database query language command and the plurality of arguments.

19. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 16, wherein the step of reading the first plurality of elements ~~of a first database search engine query from the first set of one or more query element database tables~~ further includes the sub-step of reading, from the first set of database tables, one or more names, ~~corresponding to one or more source data database tables from the first query element~~ of database tables within the second set of database tables from which the results set is to be retrieved by executing the query string.

20. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim ~~17~~ 19, wherein the step of reading a first plurality of arguments ~~for the first database search engine query from the second query element database table~~ further includes the sub-step of reading a plurality of names of columns within database tables in of the second set of one or more source data database tables from the second query element database table, the plurality of names of columns to be incorporated into the query string to specify data to retrieve for the results set.

21. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 20, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the sub-step of concatenating together the first plurality of elements that include ~~the name of the one or more source data database tables and the plurality of names of columns.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 17, wherein the program further contains instructions for performing the step of reading a further second database query language command from the first query element database table.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 22, wherein the step of reading a plurality of arguments for the query language command from the second query element table includes the sub-step of reading a plurality of names of columns of a target data database table from the second query element database table, wherein the target data database table is to receive the results set and the plurality of names of columns are to be included into a database command string.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 23, wherein the step of assembling the query string includes the sub-step of concatenating together a second plurality of elements that include the further ~~second~~-database query language command and the plurality of names of columns of the target data database table.

25. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 16, wherein the program further contains instructions for performing the steps of:

reading a second plurality of elements of a database query language query from a third ~~second~~ set of ~~one or more query element~~ database tables;

assembling a data base table storage command string from the second plurality of elements;
and

executing the data base table storage command to modify a target data database table with the results set.

26. (Original) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage command string is Structured Query Language UPDATE command string.

27. (Original) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said storage command string is Structured Query Language INSERT command string.

28. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein one or more query element database tables in said third ~~second~~ set of ~~one or more query element database~~ tables is also in said first set of ~~one or more query element database~~ tables.

29. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein said second plurality of elements contain ~~data~~ database query language elements used in database query command strings that ~~used to~~ specify the location in which data elements are to be stored in the target data database table.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium according to claim 25, wherein the program further contains instructions for performing the step of executing said storage command string so as to cause all or a part of said results set to be stored.

31. (Currently Amended) A data processing system comprising:

a storage device for storing a relational database; and

a processor programmed to:

read, from a first set of database tables by executing a first database query command string, a first plurality of elements, the first plurality of elements comprising at least one of
at least one database query language command argument and at least one database query
command argument as a first plurality of elements of a first database search engine query
from a first set of one or more query element database tables;

assemble a query string from the first plurality of elements that were read from the
first set of database tables into a database query command string comprising a second
database query command string to be executed by a database search engine on a second set
of database tables; and

execute the first query string as a second database query command string on the
database engine to retrieve a results set from the second set of one or more source database
tables.

32. (Currently Amended) A data processing system according to claim 31, wherein the processor is further programmed to:

- read a second plurality of elements of a database query language query from a third second set of ~~one or more query element~~ database tables;

- assemble a data base table storage command string from the second plurality of elements;
- and

- execute the data base table storage command to modify a target data database table with the results set.

33. (Currently Amended) A data processing system comprising:

- means for storing one or more data tables;

- means for reading, from a first set of database tables by executing a first database query command string, a first plurality of elements, the first plurality of elements comprising at least one ~~of~~ at least one database query language command and at least one database query command argument ~~as a first plurality of elements of a first database search engine query from a first set of one or more query element database tables;~~

- means for assembling ~~a query string from~~ the first plurality of elements that were read from the first set of database tables into a, the query string comprising a second database query command string to be executed by a database search engine on a second set of database tables; and

- means for executing the ~~first~~ query string as a second database query command string on the database engine to retrieve a results set from the second set of one or more source database tables.

34. (Currently Amended) A data processing system according to claim 33, further comprising:
means for reading a second plurality of elements of a database query language query from
a third ~~second~~ set of ~~one or more query element~~ database tables;

means for assembling a data base table storage command string from the second plurality of
elements;

and

means for executing the database table storage command to modify a target data table with
the results set.

35. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon a data structure
including:

a name of a first table that includes data to be processed; and

a name of a query element database table that includes arguments to be used in composing
a database command to process the data.

36. (Original) The computer readable medium according to claim 35, wherein the data structure
further includes identification of an SQL command to be used in processing the data.